

## APPARATUS FOR PROTECTION DURING THE USE OF HAIR DYE OR COLORING

This invention relates generally to a protective covering, and in particular to a covering device that protects the scalp, facial skin, eyes, mouth and nostrils during the application of dye, coloring or other chemical products for hair treatment.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The use of dye, coloring or other chemical products to enhance hair appearance can have adverse results such as skin staining, particularly in the forehead region. Due to the unappealing effects of such staining, it is important that adequate measures be taken to protect against these occurrences. Previously, hairdressers have applied protective creams to the forehead skin, just below the hairline. This method of stain prevention is often ineffective and does not protect the facial skin, eyes, mouth and nostrils from the chemical products used in hair dying, coloring or other treatment. These creams can cause rashes, blemishes, scarring, or other irritations and allergic reactions. Additionally, the creams can lead to uneven dying or coloring of the hair roots. The presence of unstained hair roots defeats the purpose of dying or coloring and is an undesirable result.

Presently, there are no consumer products available to effectively prevent facial and forehead skin staining, or run-offs of the hair treatment chemicals to the facial skin, eyes, mouth and nostrils.

Thus, a need exists for protecting the facial skin, as well as the eyes, nose and mouth from hair treatment chemicals, while at the same time allowing the even application of these products to the hair.

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

One object of the present invention is to provide an apparatus for protecting the scalp, facial skin, eyes, mouth, and nostrils during the application of dye, coloring or other chemical products for hair treatment.

Another object of the present invention is to provide the aforementioned protections while allowing even application of dying, coloring, or other hair treatment products to the hair.

One embodiment of the protective apparatus includes an absorbent pad with a top edge profiled to follow the average hairline. The pad extends down to cover the wearer's forehead and outwardly toward the wearer's ears. The pad is constructed to act as a highly absorbent chemical retainer. The pad may include some means by which to attach the pad to the user's forehead.

In another embodiment of the invention, the pad is enclosed in a plastic lining. The absorbing material of the pad is left exposed at the top edge of the pad, so that any liquid escaping from the hairline will encounter the absorbent pad and be pulled by the pad's capillary action into the pad and inside the plastic liner. One outer side of the plastic liner has an adhesive material attached such as adhesive tape or other layered adhesive material so that the pad may be fixedly attached to the wearer's forehead.

Another embodiment of the invention includes an absorbent pad designed to conform to the wearer's forehead. This pad is attached to a structure resembling goggles, composed of paper or plastic. The goggles have a flat planar surface designed to hold the pad against the wearer's forehead. At

the bottom of this surface are two openings intended for the wearer's eyes. These openings can also be provided with clear plastic lenses to protect the wearer's eyes from chemical exposure. Ear handles are attached to the sides of the flat planar surface and extend outwardly to both sides. These handles are curved such that when folded back at their attachment point, they fit over the wearer's ears, holding the goggles in place. The pad used in these goggles could be designed as any of the aforementioned varieties, with or without a plastic lining.

The preceding pad or goggles could be constructed so that they are attached in series to form a continuous strip. Each apparatus is detachable from the others, enabling the user to take only those needed. This embodiment allows for easy storage and removal of pads or goggles as needed.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows a side view of the invention in position when used.

FIG. 2 shows another embodiment of the invention in position when used.

FIG. 3 shows a rear view of another embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 4 shows a side view of an embodiment similar to that shown in FIG. 3 in position when used.

FIG. 5 shows a side view of another embodiment of the invention, with the layers peeled apart.

FIG. 6 shows a rear view of another embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 7 shows a side view of another embodiment of the invention.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Before explaining the disclosed embodiment of the present invention in detail it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of the particular arrangement shown since the invention is capable of other embodiments. Also, the terminology used herein is for the purpose of description and not of limitation.

FIG. 1 shows a side view of the protective apparatus 101 when used. The invention is an absorbent pad to be worn just below the user's hairline. The pad extends down to cover the wearer's forehead and outwardly toward the wearer's ears. The pad is generally a flexible, flat, planar surface, constructed from woolite, cotton, or a polymer material designed to act as a highly absorbent chemical retainer. The pad may be constructed with many fine air gaps which serve as minute capillaries for absorbing liquids, dyes and chemical agents used by hairdressers.

FIG. 2 shows another embodiment of the absorbent pad 200 in position when used. In this embodiment an impermeable lining 202 made of a material such as plastic partially surrounds the absorbent pad on both sides, leaving the top edge of the pad 203 exposed. The impermeable lining functions to contain any liquid absorbed by the pad. Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, a user 100 or 201 laces the top edge 55 of the pad 203 just beneath the hairline, with the remainder 60 of the pad 200 against the wearer's forehead. The absorbent material of the pad is exposed along its top edge, which is adjacent to the hair line when worn. Any liquid runoff from the chemical hair treatment encounters the exposed absorbent pad and is drawn into the pad.

FIG. 3 shows a rear view of another embodiment of the invention 300. A flat, planar surface made of plastic or paper